

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 704
By DeBerry J

A RESOLUTION to create a joint task force to study the
community investment practices of the banking
industry in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the economically disadvantaged communities of Tennessee, particularly
those in the inner cities are seriously underserved by conveniently located banks and other
financial institutions within such disadvantaged communities; and

WHEREAS, many residents of disadvantaged communities have no private means of
transportation, and often access to public transportation is problematical; and

WHEREAS, the alternatives for residents of disadvantaged communities seeking access
to financial transactions are limited to pawn shops, check cashing businesses, or other retail
operations, alternatives that may be particularly onerous to persons with limited financial assets;
and

WHEREAS, current federal law, including the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977, as
amended, requires banks to meet certain community investment guidelines and to undergo
regular review of those practices; and

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee should endorse the aims of such federal legislation
and in addition, should seek ways to encourage further investment in disadvantaged
communities by the banking industry toward the end of raising the level of economic health of
such communities; and

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WHEREAS, it is important that a study be undertaken to determine what additional encouragement can be made to facilitate the provision of financial services in economically disadvantaged communities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That a task force is created to study the issue of community investment practices of the banking industry in Tennessee, including the actual presence of financial institutions in economically disadvantaged communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the task force shall consist of three members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, three members of the Senate appointed by the Speaker of the Senate; the Commissioner of the Department of Financial Institutions and two persons representative of the banking industry recommended by the commissioner and appointed by the Speakers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the non-legislative members of the task force shall be non-voting members and shall receive no compensation for their participation except for reimbursement for travel expenses in accordance with the comprehensive travel regulations promulgated by the commissioner of finance and administration and approved by the attorney general.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the department of financial institutions shall provide staff assistance to the task force, and that all appropriate agencies of state government shall provide assistance to the task force, upon request of the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the task force shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the general assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair and such other officers as the task force shall deem necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the task force shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the One Hundred First General Assembly no later than February 15, 1999, at which time the task force shall cease to exist.